



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AF 3723
#7
SNT
Amend
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(NE)

Application of: R. MARK *et al.*

Application No.: 09/824,838 ✓

Group Art Unit: 3723

Filed: April 4, 2001

Examiner: J. Danganan

For: SCREW HOLDER

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-392

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box AF

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DEC 13 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2002 please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 12, without prejudice, to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A device for securing a screw comprising:
a longitudinal shank having a central axis and rear and front ends;
a spindle, located at the front end of the longitudinal shank and concentric to the central axis, having front and rear ends, a substantially polygonal-shaped cross-section with a plurality of rounded edges and a plurality of concave side surfaces, a groove substantially parallel to the central axis, and a borehole coextensive with the groove; and
a spring wire having top and bottom ends, with the bottom end inserted into the borehole and the top end inserted into the groove,
wherein the spring wire projects transversely to the central axis across the cross-section when unstressed, the spindle is received into a screwhead aperture of the screw, and the screw is secured into position upon stress to the spring wire, and wherein the groove